

- (i) providing a suction chamber with edges which lie on a surface of the thin film mirror being constructed;
- (ii) providing tensioning means which is forced into contact with a film which is for the thin film mirror being constructed and which is adjacent to at least one of the edges of the suction chamber such that tension in the film parallel to the edge is increased; and
- (iii) providing holding means for
- (a) holding the tensioning means;
  - (b) locally adjusting holding pressure on the tensioning means; and
  - (c) feeding the tensioning means into position after the film has been attached to the suction chamber.

A marked up copy of this amendment is included herewith.

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**In the Claims**

Please delete claims 1 – 7 and insert the following claims 8 – 14:

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8. A method of constructing a thin film mirror, which method comprises:

- (i) providing a suction chamber with edges which lie on a surface of the thin film mirror being constructed;
- (ii) providing tensioning means which is forced into contact with a film which is for the thin film mirror and which is adjacent to at least one of the edges of the suction chamber such that tension in the film parallel to the edge is increased; and